IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for managing access to a scrambled event of a service provider, said method [[of]] comprising:

[[(a)]] receiving in a device an electronic list of events, at least one event having [[an]] a digitally signed encrypted message associated therewith, said encrypted message comprising a descrambling key and event information including at least one of a channel identity, date and time stamp, event identity and payment amount corresponding to said associated event;

[[(b)]] receiving in said device, in response to user selection of said event, said digitally signed encrypted message;

[[(c)]] authenticating a source of the digitally signed encrypted message in response to said digitally signed encrypted message;

decrypting said digitally signed encrypted message to obtain said descrambling key upon said authenticating;

[[(d)]] receiving said selected event from the service provider, said selected event being scrambled using said descrambling key for preventing unauthorized access to said selected event; and

[[(e)]] descrambling said selected event using said descrambling key.

2.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the steps of decrypting said message, receiving said selected event, and descrambling said selected event are performed in a smart card coupled to the device, said message being encrypted using a public key associated with said smart card and said step of decrypting uses a private key associated with and stored in said smart card.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2 wherein said message further comprises event information, said event information being decrypted using said private key.

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4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of storing said event information, wherein said step of storing said event information is performed in said smart card.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein said smart card has a card body having a plurality of terminals arranged on a surface of said card body in accordance with one of ISO 7816 and PCMCIA card standards.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 further comprising authenticating said list of events to verify the origin of said message.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein each message further comprises a digital signature created using a second private key and the step of authenticating comprises decrypting said digital signature using a second public key that is stored in said device.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein said event information comprises channel identification data, event identity data, date and time stamp data, and billing data.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of storing said event information, wherein said step of storing said event information is performed in said device.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7 wherein said digital signature, said second public key and said second private key are issued by an independent certificate authority and are associated with said list provider.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein said device is a digital television.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein said device is a set-top box.

13.   (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein said event information is used within said device to update said user's account information.

14.   (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said event information is downloaded to an independent billing center to update a user's account information.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method for managing access between a device having a smart card coupled thereto and a service provider, said device performing the steps of:

[[(a)]] receiving an electronic program guide from a guide provider, said guide having a message and a digital signature associated with each event in said guide, said message being encrypted using a public key of the smart card and said digital signature being created using a private key of said guide provider;

[[(b)]] selecting an event from said guide;

[[(c)]] receiving said encrypted message and said digital signature corresponding to the selected event;

[[(d)]] authenticating said guide provider by decrypting said digital signature using a public key of said guide provider, said guide public key being stored in said device;

[[(e)]] passing said message to said smart card;

[[(f)]] decrypting, in said smart card, said message using a private key of said smart card to obtain event information and a symmetric key, said smart card private key being stored within said smart card;

[[(g)]] storing said event information in said smart card and updating account information based on said event information;

[[(h)]] receiving from the service provider said selected event, said selected event being scrambled using said symmetric key; and

[[(i)]] descrambling, in said smart card, said selected event using said symmetric key to generate a descrambled event.

16.   (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the device is a set-top box.

17.   (Original) The method of Clam 15 wherein the device is a digital television.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method for managing access between a device having a smart card coupled thereto and a service provider, said device performing the steps of:

[[(a)]] receiving an electronic program guide from a guide provider, said guide having a digital certificate and a separate message corresponding to each event in said guide, each of said digital certificates being encrypted using a first private key of said guide, said separate message being encrypted using a public key of the smart card and having an associated digital signature created using a second private key of said guide;

[[(b)]] selecting an event from said guide;

[[(c)]] receiving said digital certificate, said message and said digital signature corresponding to the selected event;

[[(d)]] authenticating said guide provider by decrypting said digital certificate using a first public key of said guide to obtain a second public key of said guide, and decrypting said digital signature using said second guide public key, said first guide public key being stored in the device;

[[(e)]] passing said message to said smart card;

[[(f)]] decrypting, in said smart card, said message using a private key of the smart card to obtain event information and a symmetric key, said smart card private key being stored within the smart card;

[[(g)]] storing said event information in the smart card and updating account information based on said event information;

[[(h)]] receiving from the service provider said selected event, said selected event being scrambled using said symmetric key; and

[[(i)]] descrambling, in said smart card, said selected event using said symmetric key to generate a descrambled event.

19.   (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein the device is a set-top box.

20.   (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein the device is a digital television.